

THE HAWAIIAN STAR

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WALTER G. SMITH, EDITOR

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The Star will not appear on Monday, Kamehameha Day.

LARGER OUTPUT, SMALLER LABOR SUPPLY.

In the last report of the Federal Bureau of Labor on labor conditions in Hawaii, extracts from which were recently published in the Star, some very significant statistics, relating to the number of laborers on the sugar plantations, are given in detail.

We are shown that the total number of employees of all nationalities on the plantations as of June 30th, 1904, was 45,860; in 1907, 44,447; in 1910, 43,917; a steady and substantial decrease. In relation to these figures one would very naturally expect to note a material decrease in the quantity of sugar produced. Not so. In 1902, the crop was 355,611 tons; in 1907, 440,017 tons; and in 1910, 517,090 tons.

In other words, in 1902 a laborer produced 8.4 tons of sugar; in 1907, 9.9 tons, and in 1910, 11.8 tons.

Were we asked to state concisely the reason for this rather startling exhibit we would say "science"—the application of science, and scientific experimentation to field and mill operations, and the scientific handling of labor.

In field methods the general abandonment of stripping cane, and the adoption by many plantations of burning before cutting, are mainly accountable for a very great saving in labor. A series of experiments carried on some years ago conclusively demonstrated that on the irrigated plantations, stripping was not only unnecessary, but was in fact detrimental, and that an increased production followed from non-stripping; on the rainfall plantations one stripping has succeeded three. In the same manner it was ascertained that burned cane, if promptly ground, produced as good juice as unburned. Result, a saving in labor and expense.

In the handling of laborers and the carrying on of field work, we find the plantations very generally adopting the system of letting work on contracts. Under this system, especially relating to the care and cultivation of fields, laborers perform more work and earn higher wages, than do day laborers, and fewer men are needed.

And in the mills the same care and attention are given to details of manufacture. Managers exchange and compare carefully compiled mill reports, and skilled chemists and sugar technologists are ready at a moment's notice with advice and suggestions. Improved extraction machinery secures a larger percentage of sugar than ever before.

Thus, by adopting scientific methods, the sugar plantations have materially increased their output, with a steadily decreasing supply of labor.

Chinese Cut Queues

To the average man, a hair cut is simply a necessary and unpleasant evil, and the thought of making the event a great social function, to be performed as a solemn ceremony, would seem ridiculous. There was, however, a case of barbering recently, which not only became the talk of a whole nation, but the event was cabled around the globe, and to diplomats, scientists, and students of world progress it was full of significance. For centuries his queue was dearer to the Chinaman than even the head which it adorned; in fact, if he went abroad and lost his locks, he had much better never return. But even time, which moves slowly in the land of Confucius, perhaps because it has been moving so many thousand years, at last brings a social revolution, and the queue is about to lose its hold. The average American is so absorbed in doing things he is quite indifferent as to whether he is bald or not, and is therefore unable to realize the portentous seriousness of a Chinese hair cut. A guillotine execution in France would cause far less excitement.

The leader in this reform is no other than Wu Ting-fang, at one time Minister to the United States. One hundred and fifty leading officials, business men and prominent citizens joined him in the ceremony, which was performed in public after due announcement. With such a notable example, the effect upon their four hundred million of fellow-citizens can be imagined. Seriously, the event means vastly more than the loss of a few handfuls of long hair; it reflects the growing spirit of an age of progress in the largest and most exclusive nation in the world, and is significant of a development which, a generation or less hence, will give the other nations of the world abundant food for thought—if not action.

Parade of World's Navies

The greatest naval pageant in the history of the world will be the most spectacular feature of the ceremonies incident to the opening of the Panama Canal. The President has been authorized by Congress to invite all foreign powers to participate in a great naval parade, which will insure not only representation of every navy in large numbers, but each country will send its largest and best ships. The spectacle will be the sight of a lifetime.

The fleets will assemble in Hampton Roads and proceed up the Chesapeake Bay and Potomac River to Washington, where a formal call will be made upon the President of the United States. On their return the President will review the fleets from his yacht, which will be stationed at the Virginia capes; then this vast armada will sail southward and pass through the Panama Canal as part of the official opening program. By no means the least interesting part of the announcement is the continued cruise of the combined fleets to San Francisco, during the Panama Canal Opening Exposition. This will furnish an attraction which no international exposition has ever had, and will enable thousands of people who cannot get to the Atlantic coast, to enjoy the inspiring sight of the greatest assemblage of fighting ships ever brought together in the history of the world.

Sunday Mail Delivery

To discontinue the time-honored custom of delivering mail to callers at the postoffice on Sundays, seems at first thought like a step backward. The tendency of the age would more naturally suggest one delivery at the home or office. Conditions have changed, however, to so large an extent during the past few years as to make Sunday closing to the postoffice, at least in the large cities, a not impractical thing. In the smaller country towns, where carrier service is not maintained, the labor involved to distribute the letter mail would impose no very serious hardship on the postmaster, or his clerk, for the amount to be handled is comparatively small. In the large cities, however, conditions are reversed: Not only must an enormous quantity be sorted, but it must necessarily be done by the same carriers who have worked hard all the week; and after sorting they must remain to hand it out, because they alone are able to recognize the proper parties to whom it should be delivered.

While an occasional hardship must result to travelers who wish to leave the city Sunday night, yet the number of such compared to the public served is really infinitesimally small. It is said a larger number of business concerns in Chicago than any other city call for their office mail on Sunday, and yet a recent count developed the fact that less than one-fifth of one per cent of the population used the postoffice on Sunday, and not to exceed twenty per cent of those who did call received anything. On a recent Sunday in Jersey City, with a population of over 300,000, only thirty-six persons called for mail, but to accommodate this handful 121 men were compelled to report for work.

The recent facilities of the telegraph companies in providing night lettergrams at prices practically within the reach of everybody, would seem to greatly simplify the Sunday-closing question, as the rates to points within 500 miles would be far less from their use in case of emergency, and letters coming from any greater distance would usually be twenty-four hours old, too long a time in case of illness or death. Business men would generally use the wires for telegraph or telephone, regardless of Sunday closing.

The work of the letter carrier, both city and rural, is hard enough at best, and the public should willingly make some sacrifice to give this great army of faithful, conscientious workers a day of rest. There are many services, especially in cities, which cannot be entirely abandoned even on Sunday, but the closing of the postoffice on that day would seem not to be one of them.

H. H. WINDSOR.

Uncle Walt The Poet Philosopher

All things will come to him who waits, the wise man said, and went to bed, but history, methinks, relates that they don't get there till you're dead. It is a creed for lazy men, for idlers in the market place; the man who tries and tries again—that chap the good things always chase. I used to throw my hours away, I loafed through many sunny Junes, while other men were making hay, and nothing came to me but prunes. "Good things will come some joyous morn," I said, "if I stay on the job." And other men were eating corn while I was chewing on the cob. And after many years I said: "That logic's surely out of plumb; I've waited till my nose is red, and still the good things do not come." Then I rolled up my gingham sleeves, and cracked my heels and gave a yell, and started bringing in my sheaves, since which I've done surpassing well: I own a cow, a pair of pigs, a phonograph without a crank, and divers other thingmyjigs, and have six dollars in the bank.

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WALT MASON.

LITTLE INTERVIEWS

ADJUTANT GEN. JONES—There is a fair chance now to get back the drill-site for a National Guard armory.

A. Q. MARCULLINO—The Stars will win out tomorrow, though Eddie Fernandez will be an absentee. It is up to the Stars to make good this time.

EDITOR AFFONSO—I am quite serious when I say the Portuguese will win tomorrow. Everybody thought they would lose last week, but they didn't.

ANTON KAOO—I'm going to run in the Maui marathon. If I win I'll get what's coming to me, and that's more than I have done in Honolulu, sometimes.

J. L. C. ATKINSON—The new Tenjin Maru fishing boat will beat most of the steamers in these waters when she is finished. The trial trip will take place tomorrow.

CAPTAIN JAMES—That address in The Star last night by Dr. Clark was one of the finest things I have read concerning the importation of plantation laborers into this port.

C. S. DESKY—The Sam Allen property on King and Alakea is one of the best business holdings in the city but I hear that Mrs. Allen will not permit it to be sold during her lifetime.

J. S. FASSETT—There would have been facilities to fight the fire on Pacific Heights if the department had been supplied with motor engines to get there and had found enough water.

EDITOR MATHESON—More Associated Press matter comes here than used to, at least, it does to the Advertiser, and there will be still more if the Associated Press makes this a relay point for news for and from the Orient.

R. A. JORDAN—I expect the coronation day cricket match to be witnessed by a larger gathering than has ever before been the case at a match in Honolulu. The ground is ideal, both from a player's and a scenic point of view.

FRED TURRILL—Incubator chicks must be kept for a time in a temperature which is nearly that of the incubator itself. That is when they are removed for rearing purposes. Chills and cramp will otherwise work havoc among the chicks.

PRESIDENT MOTT-SMITH—We are going to proceed against violators of the new nuisance law, irrespective of whether they be big men or small. We have to look at the matter from the standpoint of the public health and not from that of business.

R. N. CORBALEY—The mosquitoes at Kaimuki are not nearly so bad as they are at Kahului. Except for the skeeters, however, there are lots of worse places to have to live in than the township by the bay. The good fellows in that district make one overlook minor annoyances.

R. K. BONINE—The hundredth anniversary of the birth of Dr. J. W. Draper occurred last month. He was the first person to make a photographic portrait of a human being. This was in New York and Washington Irving's magazine, The Knickerbocker, spoke of it as "an object of curiosity and admiration."

C. K. YAP—There was a misunderstanding about the Chinese team and its managers. Neither Sam Hop nor myself knew that anyone else was organizing the team until we saw it in the Star. All we want to see is the Chinese players on the diamond, and we are willing to pull together for the best interest of the team.

ARMY OFFICER—"Explosive D," lately mentioned in the Star was not invented by Maxim, as has been stated, but by Col. Beverly W. Dunn, of the Ordnance Department, who gave it to the government. A shell containing it can be hammered to pieces without exploding the charge. It acts with a time fuse and blows up after the armor has been penetrated.

MOTOR OFFICER ABREU—I do not think that the chauffeurs can be prevented from worrying people getting off the boats. There is nothing in the ordinances to the effect that passengers must not be worried. We are not arresting many people for violations of the ordinances, but we are warning a lot, and you know a warning is sometimes as good as an arrest.

EDITOR AFFONSO—I do hope that the revolutionists and the volcanoes in Mexico will quit for a while so that we may be able to get unpaid telegrams from the civilized world. This thing of reporting a battle between seven generals and three privates on one side and a like number of both on the other is really beginning to work on the nerves of the average newspaper man.

JOHN SMITH—Liliuokalani speaks like a Queen I once telephoned her to ask about a Washington doctor who claimed to have been physician to the Royal family long ago, giving his full name. Her reply was delivered through her secretary as follows: "Her Majesty says the name is quite foreign to her." Now I contend that the answer was phrased in a queenly way and would never have come from a commoner of any station.

PROF. ALEXANDER—The Holo Ala E Club may be interested to know that in the spring of 1850 four schoolboys from Punahou scaled the ridge at the head of Manoa Valley, near Mount Olympus, and descended the precipice on the Koolau side into Kailua. They then walked to the Nuuanu Pali, ascended it by the old trail, and came home the same way. Their names were C. J. Lyons, John T. Gulick, Wm. H. Gulick and Theodore Gulick. They were guided by one Kahui, an old bird-catcher.

"Under The Coconut Tree"

By H. M. Ayres.

To hear some people howling about the warm weather you'd think they were dead.

Out Wahiawa way:

"How many catfish in the dam?"

"Seven!"

"How many blind-pigs running?"

"Twelve!"

"How many flowering-trees in blossom?"

"Three!"

"Good! Hang out the sign: 'Tourists' Retreat. Open for Business.'"

Sunday.

Monday.

Tuesday.

Are all good in their way,

But the finest day of all the week

Is good old Money-day.

Not for pay-check or compliment—So frequent, so large, so strong, But just for the sake of singing, Attune thy soul to song.

New Boy Scout games:

Throwing the empty salmon can for distance.

White-washing the hen-house—This is an excellent game and not only develops the muscles of the forearm, but brings the competitors closely in touch with one of the most interesting and instructive of nature's creatures.

Garbage race—This game is played under rules similar to those governing the potato race. The course, however, instead of being a hundred yards, is a mile and half, and rotten

papais, cut-down banana trunks, empty bottles and the like are used in place of potatoes.

Scouting the sidewalk for weeds—This is a singularly attractive game, possessing wonderful strategic possibilities. The idea is first to locate the weed and then to unroot it, at the same time giving the patrol yell. Weeds are cunning in the extreme in hiding themselves from the gardener or yard boy who may be detailed to look after them. The use of scoutcraft should, however, offset the almost human intelligence in the matter of evasion, of the kuku-grass and the deep-rooted mimosa.

Pointing the hose—A remarkable developer of marksmanship. The players taken an ordinary garden hose, having first turned on the water, and then, having selected a particular bush, plan or flower, bring the nozzle or the hose directly to bear on the object in view. Constant practice at this sport is as good as a course in the N. G. H. shooting gallery, and the expense, as compared with the results obtained, is much less.

Burying the carcass—A game which only requires to be known to become popular. The only apparatus necessary is a hole in the ground, which must be dug by the competitors to a depth of four feet, and a dead dog, cat, goat, rat, rabbit, mongoose, or guinea-pig, the presence of which in the neighborhood can be readily ascertained by the exercise of one of the first rules of scoutcraft. The prize goes to the scout who fills in and covers his hole in the shortest time. This game will assuredly become popular in Hawaii on account of the opportunity which it affords boy scouts to get into direct touch with the fauna of the Territory.

The chauffeur isn't the only one who runs people down, though there's no gainsaying that he does his share. There's the chatterer!

Did you notice, by the way, that the saloons had their flags at half mast this morning? And it wasn't because tomorrow's Sunday and they have to close, either.

There seems to have been a good deal of "kid" about the presentation of those white gloves to Judge Cooper.

Carrie Nation is dead, but there's still the coronation.

Mott-Smith corrects the statement that there will be a housewarming on the completion of the new morgue—He says it will be a house-cooling.

Old Bill tells me: That the coronation celebration fund is growing.

That some, of whom it was not expected, are coming through handsomely.

That some, of whom much was expected, are not.

That there is much apprehension among the board of health inspectors as to what will happen on July 1.

That some of them are to be let out.

That a change in the salary schedule is projected.

That not proses and suspended sentences work wonders in clearing a court calendar.

That Messrs. Conkling and Hemenway are registered at the Hotel Belmont, New York.

That their action in selecting such an obtrusive hostelry is appreciated by the taxpayers generally.

That Tom Skinner is going back to Maui.

That he intends to engage in the automobile necessary business.

That it's the pace that kills.

That it will continue to kill unless the motorcycle officer measures off a space wherewith to prove the pace.

That unless this be done speed hogs will continue to be practically immune from prosecution.

That the steamship people are get-

ting pretty tired of the opium crusade.

That as things are at present no man aboard a steamer, from the captain down, is free from suspicion.

That this is the kind of work which will sooner or later break up the game.

That the reward is big enough to make the game well worth playing.

That this is well realized in Honolulu.

That, notwithstanding, certain parties have declined to take a second helping.

That the dove-shooting season will shortly open.

That the season for crap-shooting is supposed to be always closed.

That the preserves of the Inter-island boats will in future be strictly protected.

AN UNRECOGNIZED TREASURE.

Charlie K. Pottle, son of Earl K. Pottle, a veteran bookseller, let a book of great value get out of his hands for \$2 when he sold an ancient volume of "The Colonial Laws of Massachusetts" to a stranger about two months ago.

Mr. Pottle's father learned on Saturday, he says, that the same volume was sold in New York city recently for \$20,000.

"I was not in the store at the time," said Mr. Pottle. "My son, who was in charge, was approached one day by a man who seemed to be an authority on old books. He saw the volume of laws, which was printed in 1642, and bought it for \$2."

"On Saturday Major Holcomb came into the store and showed me a newspaper clipping telling of the sale of the same volume for \$20,000. It was a pretty good fortune to let go, but we did not realize at that time that it was so valuable.—St. Paul Letter to the New York Sun.

Children's Day will be observed Sunday morning at eleven o'clock at Kaimakapili church. A cantata will be given entitled "Gifts For the King." A cordial invitation is extended to all.

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